(d) In order to popularise rain water harvesting, the CGWB and the DJB has conducted mass awareness and training programmes, painting competitions etc., in different areas of NCT of Delhi. In the notified areas of NCT of Delhi and surrounding areas where rain water harvesting is made mandatory special awareness programmes were also conducted. CGWB has also launched a web site containing relevant information on rain water harvesting.

Import duty on rubber

*225. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be plased to state:

(a) the import duty on rubber during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether any State Government has sought increase in the import duty on rubber;

(c) if so, the details threof; and

(d) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Import duty on rubber during last three years, year wise:

	2000-2001 (March-Feb)	2001-2002 (March-Feb)	2002-2003 (March-Feb)
Natural Rubber latex, whether or not prevulcanised	38.5% (including Surcharge)	35% (Basic)	70% (Basic)
Natural Rubber in other forms *i.e* smoked sheets, technically specified natural rubber & other	25% (Basic)	25% (Basic)	25% (Basic)
Synthetic rubber	38.5% (including Surcharge)	35% (Basic)	30% (Basic)

Note: Additional duty and Special Additional Duty is also leviable on these products at appropriate rates.

(b) to (d) Representations have been received from the Govt. of Kerala for increasing the bound rate of import duty on Natural Rubber (NR). At present, NR is classified under industrial products and the WTO Bound Rate of Duty is 25% which is also the current import duty. Under the ongoing negotiations with WTO, the Government have already filed its negotiating proposals for including NR in the rationalisation of product coverage in the Agreement on Agriculture so that the bound rate of duty on NR can be enhanced from the existing level of 25%. However, on natural rubber latex, whether or not prevulcanised, which is not bound under the WTO, the basic customs duty has been increased from 35% to 70% with effect from 01.03.2002.

Working of National Library, Kolkata

*228. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned "Make India a nation that reads", which appeared in Hindustan Times of 8th January, 2002;

(b) whether Government have since decided to appoint a committee to examine the working of the National Library, Kolkata and to make the Library movement successful all over the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the help from private entrepreneurs would be sought to make the movement successful?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (d) No formal committee has been set up. On January 5, 2002, a National Round Table was organised to discuss the prevailing state of affairs in the National and Public Libraries and to consider ways and means of reforming, reorganising and modernising the Libraries in the country and also to infuse new life in the library movement. A few other groups were constituted as a result of the deliberations in the said National Meet to look into various aspects of